

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/681,212 Confirmation No. 8332  
Applicant : S. WATARI et al  
Filed : October 9, 2003  
Title : AUTOMATIC ANALYZER  
TC/AU : 1797  
Examiner : B.R. Gordon  
Docket No. : NIP-217-02  
Customer No.: 24956

Director of the U.S. Patent Office  
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**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (Final Rejection) of March 25, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Petition for a one-month Extension of Time and appropriate fees accompany this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks / Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.

**Appendix** including verified English translations of JP 2000-050034 and JP 2000-054955 are attached following page 10 of this paper.